

Chapter 20 Weather Patterns and Severe Storms**Section 20.3 Severe Storms**

This section discusses the causes and nature of thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

Reading Strategy

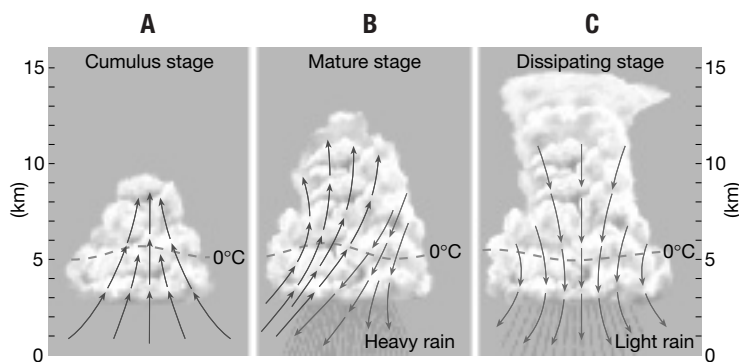
Complete the table as you read this section. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the **Reading and Study Skills** in the **Skills and Reference Handbook** at the end of your textbook.

Severe Storms		
	Causes	Effects
Thunderstorms	a.	b.
Tornadoes	c.	d.
Hurricanes	e.	f.

Thunderstorms

1. A thunderstorm generates _____ and thunder.
2. How do thunderstorms form? _____



Using the figure, match each description to its thunderstorm stage.



- | Description | Thunderstorm Stage |
|---|----------------------|
| _____ 3. The storm cools and dies down. | a. cumulus stage |
| _____ 4. Updrafts of warm air cause the cloud to grow upward. | b. mature stage |
| _____ 5. Heavy precipitation falls. | c. dissipating stage |


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Tornadoes

6.  A tornado is a violent windstorm in the form of a(n) _____ column of air.
7. Is the following sentence true or false? Tornadoes occur mainly in the winter. _____
8.  Circle the letter of the type of storm usually associated with tornadoes.
 - a. hurricane
 - b. thunderstorm
 - c. lake-effect snow
 - d. typhoon
9. Why are the maximum winds inside a tornado so high? _____

10. A tornado _____ is issued when a tornado has actually been sighted in an area.

Hurricanes

11.  To be considered a hurricane, a tropical _____ must produce sustained winds of at least 119 km per hour.
12. Is the following sentence true or false? Hurricanes are the most powerful storms on Earth. _____
13. Why are hurricanes becoming a growing threat? _____

14.  Hurricanes usually develop in late summer because they are fueled by heat and moisture from _____ water.
15. Is the following sentence true or false? The greatest wind speeds and heaviest rainfall in a hurricane occur in the eye.

16. Circle the letter of the center of a hurricane.
 - a. typhoon
 - b. eye wall
 - c. eye
 - d. surge
17. When a hurricane's eye lands, a dome of water about 65 to 80 km wide called a _____ sweeps across the coast.
18. List two situations in which a hurricane weakens. _____

